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1-15-2013

Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee

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Recommended Citation

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee, "Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Tuesday, January 15, 2013" (2013). *Academic Affairs Committee Minutes*. Paper 55.
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Academic Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2013

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee was called to order at 12:39 pm on January 15, 2013 in the MLS Classroom CSS 167 by Claire Strom.

Present:

Claire Strom, Susan Walsh, Pedro Bernal, Jana Mathews, Nancy Decker, Martina Vivodic, Faithe Galloway (student rep), Jennifer Nilson (student rep), David Daubert (student rep)

Visitors: Holly Pohlig, Deb Wellman, Jennifer Cavanaugh, Steven St. John, Bob Smither, Jennifer Queen

A. Neuroscience Minor - Approved

Jennifer Queen gave some background on the minor. Psychology wanted to have a cognitive neuroscience minor, but at FOLA, Susan suggested to bring psych students to biology as well. Many of our peer and aspirant institutions already have minors and majors in neuroscience. The minor is only open to psych, bio, biochem, and marine bio majors because many prereqs are waived for students who have declared the minor. We envision about 4 to 10 students max per year, and we often do have students who are interested in this. The presented map will move students between the departments. It is a 10 course minor, but 5 courses can be double-counted in the major. Foundations courses include courses from the psychology, biology, and philosophy department, and electives are selected from both the biology and psychology departments. As a sophomore, students will enroll in the foundations courses first. At the end, the 2-credit capstone course is team-taught. This is a 2-credit course because each major already has a 4-credit capstone course with thesis. The capstone course would allow students to synthesize information. All courses are regularly taught and already in existence with the exception of the capstone. Electives are taught at least every other year. No foundation course is offered infrequently. Foundations courses are prereqs for each other.

Students are likely to go to graduate or medical school after this minor. Students will be eligible for the minor if they meet the following criteria: must have sophomore standing, be one of these majors, and have completed at least two courses in your major with a 3.0 in the major. We hope that this allows students to successfully complete the major since so many prereqs are waived. Because there are so many courses, this will be open to other majors, but

these students must talk to the program director. Transfer students may have difficulty completing this minor because there are so many courses, and this minor may delay graduation in only 2 years for a transfer student. Major maps in psychology, biology, biochemistry, and marine biology with this minor are reasonable in terms of courseload per semester. All faculty involved were consulted about the prereqs. Faculty feel the added benefit of a diverse student body with a different, but related, knowledge base in the classroom is worth waiving the prerequisites. As the biochem major already has psych courses as electives, both Jennifer and Steve have experienced and appreciated this student diversity.

Claire said that the interdisciplinary collaboration is good, but the problem is having an application for a minor. Deb stated that education is an example of a major with an application. Holly also suggested that the 3-2 accelerated management program and the honors program have admission requirements.

B. Next week's agenda

- 1) Approve minutes of last two meetings
- 2) Transfer credits--Smither (1/22)
- 3) Global Health Minor-- Lauer (1/22)
- 4) NO MEETING ON 1/29
- 5) Asian Studies major change—Alon (2/5)
- 6) GPA requirements for study abroad—Giselda (2/5)
- 7) Health Administration Major—Holt—Dave Richards (2/12)

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:28 pm by Claire Strom. The next general meeting will be at 12:30 pm January 22, 2013 in the MLS Classroom CSS 167.

Minutes submitted by

Susan Walsh

Approved by
